

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 5, 6, 8, 10 and 12-14 to read as follows:

1. (Original) A medical waste treatment apparatus comprising:

a processing chamber where medical waste is loaded and heated;

a combustion chamber having fuel burning means for burning a fuel to produce superheated water vapor by heating one of water and steam;

superheated water vapor supply means having the combustion chamber for supplying superheated water vapor to the processing chamber;

a jacket surrounding at least a part of the processing chamber and forming a jacket space surrounding at least a part of the processing chamber between outer walls of the processing chamber; and

a combustion gas introduction path interposed between the jacket and the combustion chamber for introducing combustion gas generated by the fuel burning means into the jacket space.

2. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an exhaust gas introduction path interposed between the processing chamber and the combustion chamber for introducing exhaust gas generated by heating in the processing chamber with the superheated water vapor into the combustion chamber.

3. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a catalyst for promoting the burning of the exhaust gas by coming into contact with the exhaust gas is provided in the combustion gas introduction path.

4. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the superheated water vapor supply means comprises: a hose provided in the combustion chamber and heated by the combustion gas; and water supply means for supplying water to the hose.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, further comprising jacket air introduction means for introducing air to cool the outer walls of the processing chamber after the completion of heating the medical waste into the jacket space.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, further comprising processing chamber air introduction means for introducing air into the processing chamber after the completion of heating the medical waste.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising processing chamber air introduction means for introducing air into the processing chamber after the completion of heating the medical waste.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, further comprising:

stirring means for stirring the medical waste in the processing room;

discharging means for discharging the medical waste heated and stirred in the processing chamber from the bottom of the processing chamber; and

a recovery container where the medical waste heated and stirred in the processing chambered is loaded.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising container air introduction means for

introducing air into the recovery container where the medical waste is loaded.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, further comprising:

jacket air introduction means for introducing air to cool the outer walls of the processing chamber after the completion of heating the medical waste into the jacket space;

processing chamber air introduction means for introducing air into the processing chamber after the completion of heating the medical waste;

a recovery container where the medical waste loaded into the processing chamber to be heated and stirred is discharged from the processing chamber and is loaded; and

container air introduction means for introducing air into the recovery container,

wherein the jacket air introduction means, the container air introduction means, and the processing chamber air introduction means share one blower.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

jacket air introduction means for introducing air to cool the outer walls of the processing chamber after the completion of heating the medical waste into the jacket space;

processing chamber air introduction means for introducing air into the processing chamber after the completion of heating the medical waste;

a recovery container where the medical waste loaded into the processing chamber to be heated and stirred is discharged from the processing chamber and is loaded; and

container air introduction means for introducing air into the recovery container,

wherein the jacket air introduction means, the container air introduction means, and the processing chamber air introduction means share one blower.

12. (Currently Amended) A fuel for one of blast furnace and thermal power generation ~~consisted of~~ comprising the medical waste treated by the medical waste treatment apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1.

13. (Currently Amended) A fuel for one of blast furnace and thermal power generation ~~consisted of~~ comprising

the medical waste treated by the medical waste treatment apparatus according to claim 8.

14. (Currently Amended) A fuel for one of blast furnace and thermal power generation ~~consisted of~~ comprising the medical waste treated by the medical waste treatment apparatus according to claim 10.